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HE'S STILL GOT IT: WELCOME BACK, MR. WOMACK {page 14}

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Wednesday, June 20, 2012

Too young to tan?

▶ Legislature mulls bill requiring doctor's note for young teens to hit the beds ▶ Proponents say tanning is an epidemic in US ▶ Salon supporters: Parents should have final say {page 02}

▶ Athena Lacaire basks in the glow of the tanning bed bulbs yesterday at TanWorks on Summer Street.

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Teen tanning troubles

If passed, bill would require doctor's consent for kids aged 14 and 15 Public health officials hope for teen tan ban in the future Tanning fans say parental consent is enough

Indoor tanning talk is heating up as a bill restricting teen access to tanning salons inches closer to the House floor.

The bill, which slid through the Senate last week, bans 14- and 15-year-olds from using indoor tanning equipment without written consent from a doctor, and requires parents of 16- and 17-year-olds to sign a consent form that warns about skin cancer risks associated with indoor tanning.

"We know that tanning beds cause cancer. We've known this for several years, and we know this is a major issue for Caucasian youths — primarily girls — since they use tanning beds about six times more than boys," said Deb Girard, executive director of the Melanoma Foundation of New England.

TanWorks employee Athena Lacaire said that she understands the concern, but does not agree that it warrants permission from a doctor.

"I can see why they'd have a problem with kids coming in to tan at such a young age, but if their parents are allowing them to tan, I feel like that's on them. I want people to be healthy, but I also don't agree with people telling others what to do," she said.

Lacaire's co-worker agreed, saying that parents should make the call. "Until your child is 18, you have control of your child. I don't think they should have to go the doctor and get a note if they just want to get a tan for a prom," said Fallon MacDougall.

Tanning salon patron Sonja Styblo said that while there is nothing wrong with adults tanning in moderation, kids should be held to a stricter standard.

"I'm all about getting doctor's consent, because it's not good for you," she said.

The House has rejected the legislation each time it has passed the Senate since it was first introduced five years ago.

Girard said its unpopularity in the House may be due concerns over potential impact on small businesses and parental rights.

California, and more recently, Vermont, have both passed legislation banning indoor tanning for all minors.

If the House passes the legislation, which Girard is hopeful it will, the state will be that much closer to following in the footsteps of those states.

"The thing that helped us most in the last few months is the New Jersey tanning mom story," Girard said.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Athena Lacaire gets a tan at TanWorks on Summer Street.

Shedding light on fake bakes

Indoor tanning is the leading contributor to Melanoma, a highly aggressive form of skin cancer most common among Caucasian people.

- Melanoma is the most common cancer among women aged 25 to 32, and it kills one person every hour
- New England states have a higher than average rate of melanoma
- As many as 10,000 people a year die from melanoma
- People who use tanning beds once a month before the age of 35 increase their melanoma risk by 75 percent
- Using a tanning bed for 20 minutes is equivalent to spending one to three hours a day at the beach with no sun protection at all
- Tanning beds put out three to six times the amount of radiation given off by the sun
- For most people, 5-10 minutes of unprotected sun 2-3 times a week is enough to help skin make vitamin D, which is a health essential.

SOURCE: MELANOMA FOUNDATION OF NEW ENGLAND

Quoted

"We can look at tanning as an epidemic in this country. We see kids who are tanorexics. It's crazy."

DEB GIRARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MELANOMA FOUNDATION OF NEW ENGLAND

15%
of 15-year-olds use tanning beds

35%
Once they hit 17, that number jumps to 35 percent.
SOURCE: GIRARD

In the news

$700

A new model of the famous robotic vacuum Roomba will sell for $699.99. The Bedford-based company iRobot said yesterday that the new model, Roomba 790, will feature room-to-room navigation and a wireless command center. No word yet on if it will come with an iPod connection for a DJ feature.
GLOBE/METRO

Today's local tweet

"got a call from the city of Boston alerting me about a heat advisory and the 97* tomorrow... perfect my 2 mile walk to work should be fun"

@JACQUELINACOSTA, WHO IS HOPING TO SHOW UP TO WORK WITHOUT BEING TOO SWEATY

Mayor's office warning: It's gonna be a scorcher

BOSTON. The first day of summer is set to slam Boston with heavy heat today, with temperatures hovering around 100 degrees, according to the National Weather Service.

To prepare, city officials yesterday urged residents to seek shade and stay hydrated.

"Summer is arriving at full steam, and as we prepare for the first potential heat wave of the season there are a few important things to keep in mind," Mayor Thomas Menino said. "In these conditions we must remember to stay cool and hydrated and keep an eye on our vulnerable neighbors."

109 Today's projected heat index, according to the National Weather Service

Menino and the Boston Public Health Commission issued the heat advisory, reminding residents that they can cool off at several Boston Parks Department water spray features and in air conditioned community centers.
METRO

Staties investigating their own

CAMBRIDGE. State police are investigating how a pair of troopers handled a wrong-way driving incident involving one of their own in Cambridge last week.

State police said Trooper Adam Paicos, 29, was allegedly driving the wrong way on Memorial Drive while off duty. He was not arrested and has been placed on restricted duty. METRO

Senators lash out, call for MBTA control board

BOSTON. Five state senators lashed out at the MBTA yesterday, calling for a control board to watch over the agency and provide the T with a "stable and sustainable future."

According to the State House News Service, the idea was presented as an amendment to a T bailout bill that is up for debate in the Senate.

The five-member control board would be appointed, and would have the same powers as the existing T board.

Furthermore, the $51 million bailout sought by the T would be extended in the form of a loan, rather than a direct appropriation.

The legislators described the MBTA as a heavily subsidized agency that has routinely turned to Beacon Hill for bailouts.

The consensus among them was that the trend needs to stop.

The $51 million up for consideration would balance the T's budget for the new fiscal year, which starts on July 1.
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Yes, soup could be for you, Bostonians!

A new social media campaign aims to ladle the city with some piping hot Soup Nazi goodness.

The Soup for Boston Facebook page wants to convince Seinfeld's Soup Nazi to come to Boston next month.

The mission of the page reads: "For years he's denied us soup. Now is time we fight back. 'Like' this cause and help bring the Soup Nazi to Boston!"

▶ Thomas

GETTY IMAGES

The Seinfeld Food Truck, run by "Soup Nazi" actor Larry Thomas, will hit up one lucky U.S. city next month to hand out free iconic Seinfeld food samples like Junior Mints, Mulligatawny soup, nonfat yogurt and black-and-white cookies.

The treats will hit a note with fans familiar with the hit sitcom's food-related episodes.

No word yet on whether Thomas will dish out marble rye.

He will, however, give away Seinfeld souvenirs and pose for photographs with fans.

The page was created on June 8, and as of yesterday afternoon had 116 "likes."

The campaign also has a Twitter handle, @SoupForBoston, hashtag #soupforboston. ● MORGAN ROUSSEAU

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Will Cambridge ban these beverages?

Not all keen on Cambridge soda limits

While reaction to the Cambridge mayor's proposal to limit the size of sugary drinks was mixed, many thirsty Cambridge workers said they wanted their dietary decisions to be their own and not the city's.

Jake Ronald, who works in Cambridge, went to a 7-Eleven near Kendall Square yesterday for an afternoon treat.

"It's up to everyone to make their own choices," said Ronald, while holding a 40-ounce watermelon Slurpee. "People are just going to end up spending more to get … two drinks."

During a meeting Monday night, Cambridge Mayor Henrietta Davis proposed that the city limit the size of sugary drinks served in restaurants. It was referred to the city's committee on community health.

"High intake of soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages increases the risk of obesity and diabetes," according to a policy order submitted on the topic. "New York City has a plan to limit the serving size of soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages sold in restaurants."

While Davis' order did not include specifics, she said it would be similar to the ban proposed earlier this year by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the Globe reports.

Bloomberg's plan would limit sugary bottled or fountain drinks to 16 ounces in eateries and venues. It would not affect diet soda, drinks that are more than 70 percent juice or convenience or grocery stores.

16+

Drinks larger than 16 ounces would be banned in New York City eateries and movie theaters. The Cambridge plan would be modeled after the New York proposal.

"Malnutrition in this country is not only a problem of not getting enough to eat, but also consuming way too many empty, sugary calories." DAVIS

Last year Boston Mayor Thomas Menino banned soda, sports drinks and other sugary drinks from city property. However Bostonians may be safe as city officials said they are not ready to limit drink sizes.

Dan Kirouac sat inside a 7-Eleven yesterday while sipping on a 16-ounce diet soda. He said he understood the principal of the proposal, but not its target.

"There are a ton of other things more unhealthy," he said. "You could still buy an 8-ounce soda and half a dozen Twinkies."

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Cops say man had grenade launcher, ammunition

BOSTON. A Randolph man was arrested Monday night for allegedly driving around East Boston with a gun, ammunition and a grenade launcher.

Police stopped Michael Stroll, 22, after witnessing what they said was a transaction near the Shore Plaza housing project.

When police searched his car they found a gun, 1,000 rounds of ammo and the launcher. METRO

Boston hospitals named leaders in LGBT equality

BOSTON. An annual survey released yesterday named five Hub hospitals Leaders in LGBT Heathcare Equality.

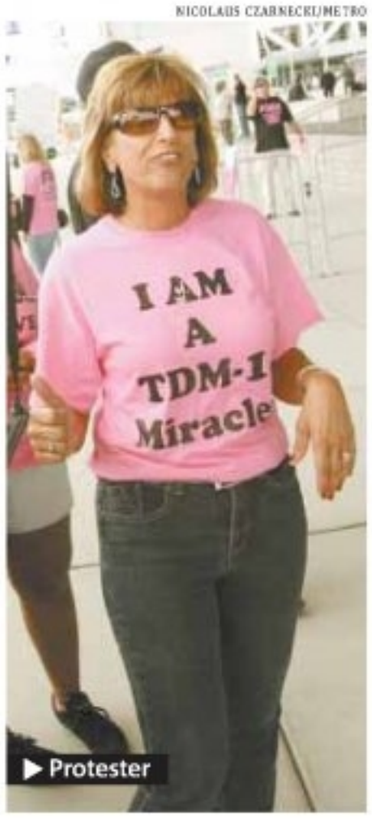
Boston Medical Center, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Faulkner Hospital and Fenway Health were among 234 health care facilities nationwide recognized in the Healthcare Equality Index 2012.

Each facility must meet indicators for equitable care, including nondiscrimination policies for LGBT patients and employees, a guarantee of equal visitation for same-sex partners and parents, and LGBT health education for staff.

The survey was conducted by the Human Rights Campaign, America's largest LGBT organization. METRO

Cancer survivors target FDA at BIO convention

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO



▶ Protester

- Group pushing for approval of breast cancer drug
- FDA won't comment on drugs still pending approval

Phil McCartin said he and his wife Lorraine owe her life to a new breast cancer drug that they said is being held up by the Food and Drug Administration.

"This drug can be a knockout" for breast cancer, said McCartin, of Hanson.

He and about a dozen other people held signs and handed out pink pamphlets yesterday outside the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center where the BIO International Convention is being held this year. Yesterday, FDA leaders were there to speak during a panel discussion.

Lorraine McCartin was diagnosed with a strain of breast cancer nearly two years ago and started treatment with a new drug called T-DM1. However, the FDA denied the drug's early approval forcing the company to continue a trial phase.

"We need an FDA that works for us."
MCCARTIN

McCartin said after that he and his wife drove to Virginia where the drug was still available. He said Lorraine is now in better health.

But yesterday's rally was an attempt to push the FDA to approve the drug to save more lives, he said.

"We need an FDA that works for us," said McCartin.

FDA spokeswoman Erica Jefferson said the pharmaceutical company had submitted new data but said she was barred from commenting on T-DM1's approval process.

"We can't talk about applications that are pending," said Jefferson, according to the State House News Service. She said the FDA protects consumers from products that have not been fully vetted.

"It's our job to regulate products and make sure that they're both safe and effective," Jefferson said, adding that, "You don't want the product to do more harm than good."

THE STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT.

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Ex-Rutgers student released after 20 days in jail

NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY. A former Rutgers University student convicted of bias crimes for using a webcam to spy on his gay roommate's sexual encounter was released from a New Jersey jail yesterday after serving 20 days of his 30-day sentence.

Dharun Ravi, 20, looking unshaven, left the Middlesex County jail shortly after 8:30 a.m. accompanied by his attorney. They left from a side exit and avoided a throng of media that was awaiting his release.

Ravi received a 10-day credit for good behavior, allowing him to leave after serving 20 days of his 30-day sentence imposed by Judge Glenn Berman.

Ravi was convicted of bias crimes for using a webcam to spy on his roommate, Tyler Clementi, 18, and an older man he met online in their shared Rutgers dorm room. **REUTERS**

Alabama fan on trial for tree poisoning at Auburn University

MOBILE, ALABAMA. Jury selection began yesterday in the trial of an avid University of Alabama sports fan charged with criminal mischief and unlawful property damage for poisoning 130-year-old oak trees near rival Auburn University's campus in 2010.

Fans for decades have gathered to celebrate football victories under the beloved oak trees at Toomer's Corner.

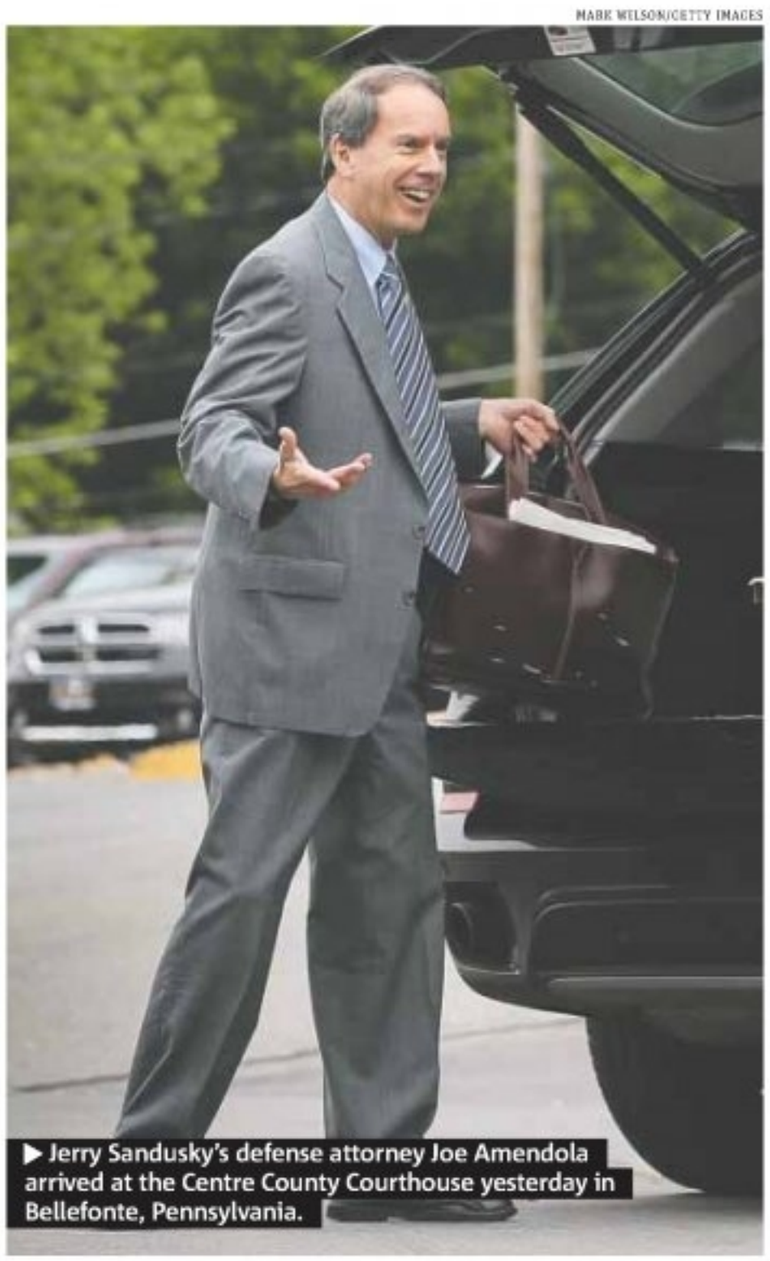
Prosecutors said Harvey Updyke, 63, put a powerful herbicide on the soil beneath the trees shortly after the Auburn Tigers football team defeated the University of Alabama Crimson Tide in November 2010, setting the stage for Auburn's undefeated national championship season.

Updyke, a former Texas police officer, called in to a nationally syndicated sports radio program to brag about his actions. He has since publicly apologized to Auburn fans.

He has pleaded not guilty to felony charges of criminal mischief and unlawful property damage, as well as two misdemeanor counts of "desecrating a venerated object." **REUTERS**

Sandusky defense aims to discredit prosecution case

MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Jerry Sandusky's defense attorney Joe Amendola arrived at the Centre County Courthouse yesterday in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

Lawyers sought to discredit the prosecution's case in the Jerry Sandusky child sexual abuse trial yesterday by suggesting investigators had coached testimony from one of the former Penn State assistant football coach's alleged victims.

Asked as he arrived at court whether he would put Sandusky on the witness stand as the trial entered its final stages, defense attorney Joe Amendola told reporters: "Stay tuned. Come on, it's like a soap, you have to wait and see."

"Is it 'Days of Our Lives?'" a reporter asked in return, referring to a long-running U.S. daytime television drama.

"I think it's 'General Hospital,'" Amendola answered. Then, a moment later, he quipped, "Actually it could be 'All My Children.'"

Amendola said previously that Sandusky would testify.

In the courtroom, Amendola took aim at law enforcement officers' testimony that they had not discussed abuse accounts offered by fellow accusers with other alleged victims in the closely watched case.

Amendola questioned Pennsylvania state trooper Corporal Scott Rossman and retired trooper Joseph Leiter about a taped interview they held with one of the accusers, known in court documents as Victim 4, and his attorney in April 2011.

The interview was played in court and Leiter was heard saying to Victim 4 during a break that investigators had interviewed about nine other potential victims. In some cases "oral sex has taken place by both parties," which would be considered rape under state law, he said.

Leiter could be heard saying telling the accuser that his story "word for word" followed those of others. "He has taken advantage of you. We need you to tell us what happened," Leiter is heard saying.

Under cross-examination by a prosecutor, Leiter said he considered the interview technique to be appropriate and never suggested to a victim what he should say.

It was the second day of the defense case after the prosecution rested its case on Monday. Earlier defense witnesses sought to vouch for Sandusky's good character. Judge John Cleland told jurors on Monday he expected closing arguments to take place tomorrow.

Two university officials also face charges of perjury and failure to report suspected abuse in an alleged incident involving Sandusky and a boy at a Penn State locker room. **REUTERS**

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Language classes. Doctor's offices offering plastic surgery. Interactive museums. Oh, and a flight — or maybe not. Welcome to the airport of the future.

"Airports are trying to grow their relationships with the passengers," notes Rohit Talwar, CEO of forecasting firm Fast Future. "They want to turn themselves into shopping destinations."

By 2025, airports will indeed offer cosmetic surgery, predicts Talwar. Many are already offering services that have little to do with the lackluster tax-free shops travelers are used to.

"Airports are like medieval cathedrals," says Richard Nicholls, editorial director at the Future Foundation, a British think tank. "They have an architectural quality that you don't see anywhere else, and they define a city. But why should customers abandon their expectations when they enter the airport? The airports have discovered that there's a new market."

"Airports want to become a place for nontravelers, too."
ROHIT TALWAR

Singapore's Changi airport features a fish spa, a butterfly garden and city tours; Munich's airport has a traditional Christmas market. Orly and Charles de Gaulle in Paris offer cooking classes, while Chicago's O'Hare Airport has a vertical farm that feeds its visitors. Amsterdam's Schiphol recently unveiled a "city park" featuring natural light and animal sounds. Helsinki Airport, for its part, features an @home lounge, made to look like a Finnish home, complete with Finnish design and shelves full of books. Guests can even borrow wool socks.

But transit hubs have no plans to stop there. "Airports are trying to expand their customer base," explains Talwar. "Some regional airports will try to restyle themselves as outlets, while other will turn themselves into fashion centers."

Good-bye dreary waits? "It's a great idea," says Nicholls. "When you're at an airport, you want to indulge yourself."

ELISABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

60 seconds with ...

'TRAVEL HAS NOW BECOME A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS'

Metro spoke with Wendy Liebmann, CEO and chief shopper of Strategic Retail:

As far as shoppers are concerned, how can airports improve?
More variety — of categories, brands, price points, services — will really help. Heathrow Terminal 5 in the U.K. and Kingsford Smith Airport in Sydney, Australia, are great examples. They can also offer more customized cultural variety. For example, in Dubai, the airport shops include places to buy gold.

Are airports on the right track in adding more upscale shops and dining as well as leisure activities?
Yes, they are but it can't only be upscale offerings. Travel has now become a very democratic process. And really smart travel retailers recognize that. As with traditional retail, it means understanding and following the attitudes and lifestyles of your shoppers or travelling shoppers.

If the security issues are solved, can airports become shopping destinations- tions?
Only if they are really different from what's available at the local mall.

Wendy Liebmann, CEO and chief shopper, Strategic Retail

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Children's Hospital Boston

SAMANTHA LEE

▶ Don't miss your flight enjoying the butterfly garden in Singapore's airport!

Waiting? Take in nature

SINGAPORE. In addition to its butterfly garden — with some 1,000 butterflies — Changi Airport in Singapore features a cactus garden, an orchid garden, a sunflower garden, a fern garden and "piazza gardens," which were added this year.

"Singapore is known as the Garden City, famous for its beautiful gardens and plants," Changi spokeswoman Samantha Lee tells Metro. "At Changi, we want our passengers to start experiencing the lush landscaping that our country is famous for."

The gardens, including the airport's own plant nursery, are managed by 11 full-time horticulturists.

"We take special care of them with measures such as providing flowering plants and fruit to ensure that the garden remains close to their natural habitat," explains Lee. "Since we bring in the butterflies from the pupa stage, we care for them by spraying water constantly to keep the living conditions in a humid state for optimal growth. The pupas are kept in a cage that is designed to keep out predators such as lizards and ants." MWN

100

Some 100 garden staff are responsible for maintaining the gardens. And the butterflies have their own staff.

SOURCE: AMADEUS REINVENTING THE AIRPORT ECOSYSTEM, 2012 GRAPHIC: MIA KORAB

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News in brief

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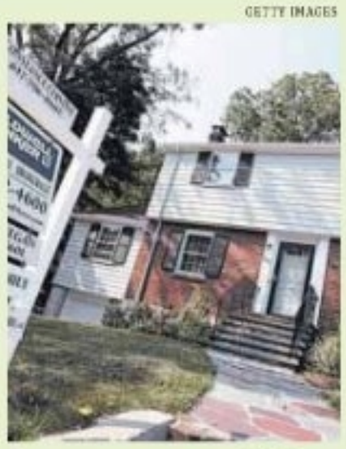

Data suggests US housing recovery on track

WASHINGTON. Housing starts fell in May from a 3 1/2 year high, although permits to build new homes rose sharply, suggesting a nascent housing recovery remains on track.

The Commerce Department said yesterday that groundbreaking on new homes dropped last month to an annual rate of 708,000 units, falling short of analysts' expectations.

However, upward revisions to data for March and April put starts above 700,000 for five straight months, a first since 2008. **REUTERS**

Microsoft's tablet no threat to iPad: analysts

LOS ANGELES. Microsoft Corp. introduced its own line of tablet computers on Monday at a much-hyped press event in Los Angeles, marking a major strategic shift for the software giant as it struggles to compete with Apple Inc. and reinvent its aging Windows franchise.

The new tablet line, named Surface, includes a consumer device aimed directly at the Apple iPad, and another, larger machine designed to compete with lightweight laptops. Both include a keyboard that doubles as a cover, and both will be powered by versions of the new Windows 8 operating system. **REUTERS**

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▶ Surface

Cities lead effort to curb climate change as nations lag behind

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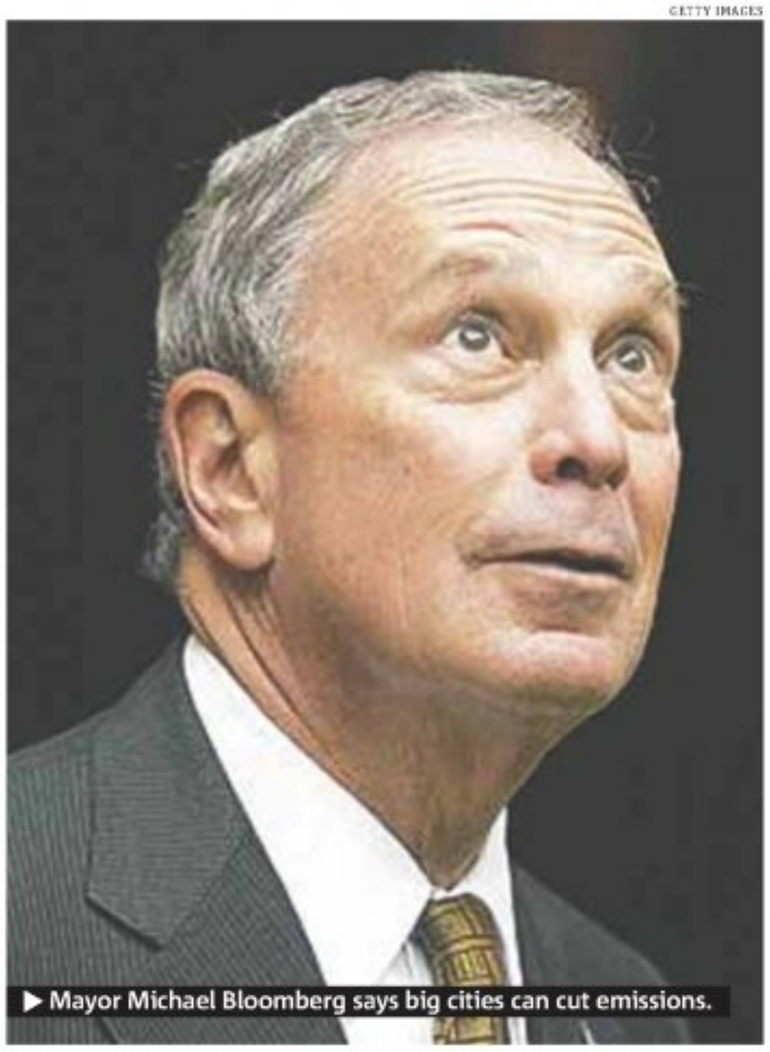

▶ Mayor Michael Bloomberg says big cities can cut emissions.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is leading an effort by 58 of the world's largest cities to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions while federal governments struggle to meet global targets following two decades of discussions.

The member cities of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group produce about 14 percent of the world's greenhouse-gas emissions. Their actions to improve energy efficiency and invest in renewable power will reduce emissions by 248 million metric tons in 2020, Bloomberg said on a conference call. The cities can cut emissions by more than 1 billion tons by 2030, or the equivalent annual output from Mexico and Canada.

"We can buy the world another 10 to 20 years from the worst effects of global warming if we go after methane."
FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON

Mayors, who have oversight of agencies responsible for more than three quarters of urban emissions, may be able to implement policies faster than federal governments, former President Bill Clinton said on the call. Cities that enact new rules and regulations and share their findings may help nations meet global environmental targets, such as reducing methane emissions from landfills, one of the most potent greenhouse gases.

"We can buy the world another 10 to 20 years from the worst effects of global warming if we go after methane," Clinton said on the call. "It will improve the quality of life for everyone."

The C40 group's effort to reduce methane emissions will start in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; Dhaka, Bangladesh, and the suburbs of Jakarta, Rachel Kyte, vice president for sustainable development at the World Bank, said today at a C40 press conference in Rio de Janeiro. **BLOOMBERG**

Trash doubling

"The volume of garbage is going to double over the next 15 years," Rachel Kyte, vice president for sustainable development at the World Bank, said yesterday at a C40 press conference in Rio de Janeiro.

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THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

On the market: Johnny Depp

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Depp is officially single for the first time in 14 years.

After months of rumors that their 14-year relationship was over, **Johnny Depp** and **Vanessa Paradis** have officially announced their separation.

The couple "have amicably separated," Depp's publicist confirmed in a statement released yesterday, which ended with our own personal kryptonite: "Please respect their privacy and, more importantly, the privacy of their children."

Well played, publicist. Unfortunately, we have a job to do here, so we'll start being respectable people with functioning souls tomorrow.

For now, we should point out that it's been impossible to find a photo of Depp and Paradis together for at least a year, and things reportedly began to end when they left a low-key life in France for Los Angeles.

Lately, Depp has been linked to everyone from **Ashley Olsen** (the extra blonde one, we think) to his "Rum Diary" co-star **Amber Heard**, who tends to date women but was spotted lurking around the set of his new film, "Dark Shadows."

As for gossip output, we like the odds on both of these ladies — but as long as he's in L.A., our vote is to go big with **Lindsay**. (Tomorrow, universe — we promise!)

Tyson talks veganism

We feel for **Ann Curry**. When she asked **Mike Tyson** about his vegan diet on the "Today" show yesterday morning, she was probably hoping to get back into territory she was comfortable with (as in, summer grilling segments).

Instead, this is the reason Tyson gave for giving up animal products: "There's too many prison cells, jails, lawsuits, bankruptcies, women, venereal diseases, too many everything. I got tired of … every time a prostitute girlfriend came back from a trip I had to sleep with them."

Do Quorn burgers really curb prostitute cravings? Screw it — we're not eating that stuff.

Oh, no he didn't!

Some of **Channing Tatum**'s former stripper colleagues aren't amused that he turned his past gig into a new film, "Magic Mike."

Two dancers he used to work with, **Thomas "Awesome" Austin** and **London Steele**, have uploaded videos to YouTube complaining that the actor stole some of their best moves, including the "hot seat."

"[Tatum] looks like 'the man' now, but trust me, he wasn't 'the man' then," Austin says. "He was 18 years old and wore white athletic socks onstage."

Austin also isn't happy about the actor cast to portray what he assumes is a character based on himself.

"**Matthew McConaughey**

dressed up as a cowboy? Anyone who knows anything about male dancing knows that that character is me," he says.

Who are these people who know things about "male dancing"? We have some questions about hot seats.

Talking points

Bieber has butterflies

Justin Bieber's relationship with **Selena Gomez** is going great, in case anyone was worried. "What does love feel like? It feels good. If you're really in love, then you should get butterflies. Butterflies and happiness, that's how I feel anyway," Bieber says in an interview with Fabulous magazine. "My first kiss with Selena was the best of my life. It was in the car. It was scary and spontaneous and it was just awesome."

'Rock of Ages' a historic flop

The 1980s metal musical "Rock of Ages" failed to find its audience at the box office opening weekend, but just how big of a flop is it? Consider this: The film, which earned $14.4 million in its first outing, stands as **Tom Cruise**'s worst opening weekend in 20 years (not counting the 2007 political drama "Lions for Lambs," which had Cruise in a supporting role). Cruise's last major release to open to less than $15 million was 1992's "Far and Away," co-starring ex-wife **Nicole Kidman**.

▶ Hathaway

"Rock of Ages" is even doing worse than his disappointing 2010 comedy "Knight and Day," according to Box Office Mojo.

Someone feed Anne Hathaway, stat

Anne Hathaway had to go on a deprivation diet to play a tuberculosis-addled prostitute in "Les Miserables," something she hasn't exactly been enjoying. "I'm doing some crazy weight stuff right now. I'm on day six of detox," Hathaway tells Allure magazine. "This diet makes me break out, so I love that. Nothing like living on hummus and radishes and then [being] all, 'And I got a pimple. Yeah!'"

Coming soon: 'Entourage,' the movie

Fans of HBO's "Entourage" can rest easy. Executive producer **Mark Wahlberg** confirms to the "Today" show that a movie spin-off is in the works. The series ended after eight seasons with all the main characters finding happiness — including Ari, played by **Jeremy Piven**, ditching his job to reconcile with his wife — but Wahlberg suggests that won't last. "The dream job [Ari] got offered is too good to pass up," Wahlberg teases.

2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Nathan Fillion has to go, Bill Maher is seeing the country, Alyssa Milano is sticking with the classics and Sarah Silverman is fascinated by her country.

@nathanfillion: Raining is London's way of crying when I leave. Shhh, sweetheart. I'll be back soon enough.

@billmaher: Got back today from Ohio and Michigan - now I know why they're called swing states, campaign ads on tv this early u want to hang yourself

@alyssa_milano: My son's newest obsession is pinwheels.

@SarahKSilverman: America loves fat guys w boundless energy

Milano

Seeking a celeb for the end of the world

1. U.K. TV presenter **Donna Air** wasn't really going for subtle at the London premiere of "The Amazing Spider-Man."

2. So help us **Kristen Stewart**: **Chris Hemsworth** is touching you. Look alive!

3. "Modern Family" kiddos (from right) **Ariel Winter**, **Nolan Gould** and **Sarah Hyland** were looking all grown up at the Critics' Choice Awards in L.A. on Monday.

4. Zooey Deschanel made the Critics' Choice red carpet blush in her rosy tea-length gown.

5. Happy Wednesday! **Christina Hendricks** went all sexy librarian at the Critics' Choice Awards.

6. We like how **Steve Carell** ups his game when standing next to **Keira Knightley**. The "Seeking a Friend for the End of the World" co-stars attended the film's L.A. premiere on Tuesday night.

1: BEN PRUCHNIE/GETTY IMAGES
2: MARIANNA MASSEY/ GETTY IMAGES
3,5: KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES
4: TIFFANY ROSE/WIREIMAGE
6: ERIC CHARBONNEAU/WIREIMAGE

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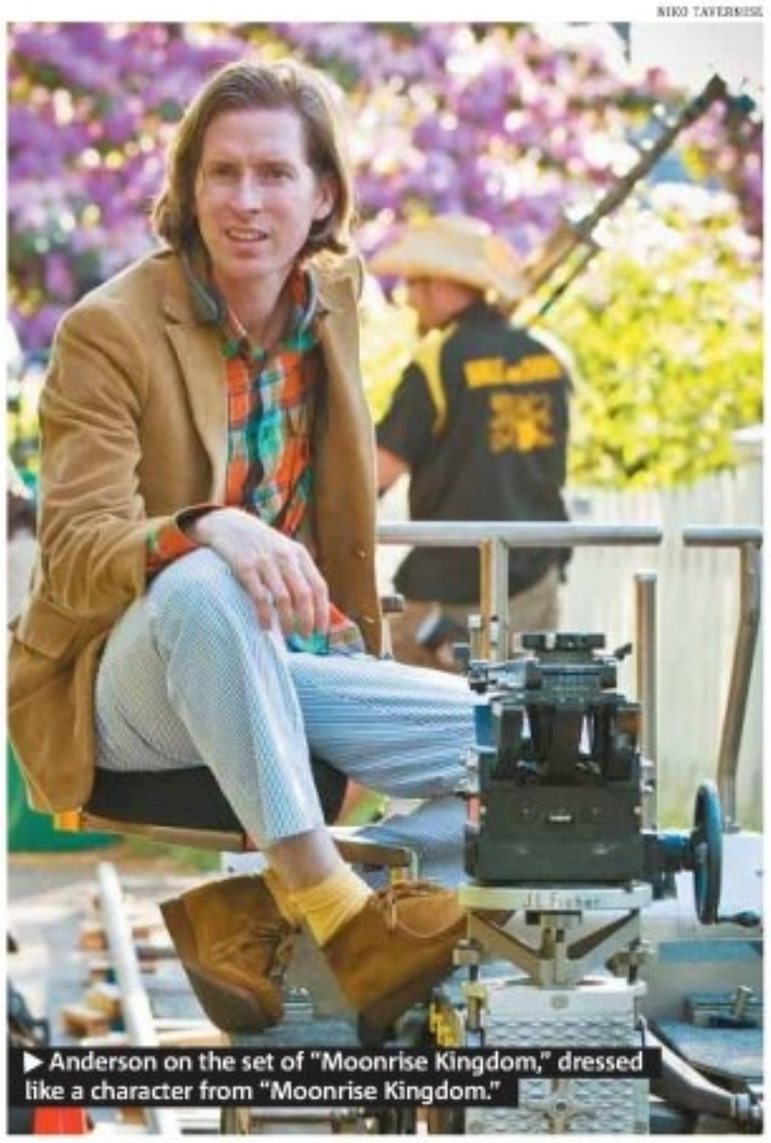

▶ Anderson on the set of "Moonrise Kingdom," dressed like a character from "Moonrise Kingdom."

INSIDE WES ANDERSON'S WORLD

The idiosyncratic director discusses his favorite actors to work with, some of whom appear in his new film, 'Moonrise Kingdom'

Wes Anderson has a thing for outsiders. Luckily, so do audiences. His latest film, "Moonrise Kingdom," offers another exploration into sad, oddball characters struggling against the confines of their lives. "That always has an appeal to me, and I don't know why. I've always been drawn to those kind of stories," Anderson admits. "This movie seems to be about a pack of lone wolves."

Making up that pack are a pair of runaway tweens (Jared Gilman and Kara Hayward) exploring young love on a rural New England island in 1965 while the folks they've run away from — her parents (Bill Murray and Frances McDormand), his scoutmaster (Edward Norton) and the local sheriff (Bruce Willis) — track them down. The way Anderson sees it, everyone involved is an outsider. "The girl in the story is very isolated, even in her own family, and the boy has his own issues as he's orphaned," he explains. "Edward Norton is alone, he's dedicated to this little scout troop because I don't think he has anybody himself."

Quoted:

"That's something that I like about Bill Murray, his wildness." WES ANDERSON

While Anderson has a penchant for re-teaming with actors — aside from regular collaborator Murray, Anderson vet Jason Schwartzman pops up in "Moonrise Kingdom" as well — he doesn't plan so far ahead that he writes for specific actors. "I try to focus on making a character and not be tailored to one person," he says. "But most of this cast is people I had thought of before I finished the script. Having Bill Murray and Frances McDormand as a couple was something that came in early in the process."

So what is it about Murray — who has appeared in all of Anderson's films save for his first, "Bottle Rocket" — that keeps the director coming back to him? "One of the things I like about him is his feeling of anarchy," the very controlled director says. "That's something that I like about Bill Murray, his wildness. He's also just one of my favorite actors, period. I met him as his fan in the first place. The other thing is making a movie is a good place to have allies. You're usually up against something that doesn't want to get done. Bill Murray's a person you can rely on to help you force it to happen."

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TV watch list

'Dogs in the City'

REALITY. Dog guru Justin Silver has never met a pup he couldn't talk some sense into. Tonight, the super trainer takes on a family dog that likes to mix playing with biting and a shy pooch who's having trouble standing up to his new canine housemates. **8 p.m., CBS**

'Duets'

REALITY. Tonight, the professionals and their contestant partners team up for songs from movie soundtracks. In other words, get ready for some "Grease" reprisals. **9:31 p.m., ABC**

'Justin Bieber: All Around the World'

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bieber

DOCUMENTARY. Break out the Capri Suns and get ready to squeal: This documentary goes behind the scenes of the pop star's 2012 tour to promote his album "Believe." **8 p.m., NBC**

MONICA WEYMOUTH

Soul legend Bobby Womack releases his first album in more than 15 years with the help of Blur and Gorillaz frontman Damon Albarn

JAMIE-JAMES MEDINA

'The Bravest Man in the Universe'

Touchdown

At 68, Womack has said goodbye to many of his former collaborators, but his new album is in part a tribute to them. Womack has recently struggled with colon and prostate cancer, and mortality weighs heavily on the singer today.

▶ "I wonder what a lot of these artists would be thinking at the time of their death," he says. "They put me in charge and I feel like that — the last old man standing. I say, let me say something to wake these people up to how fortunate they were to have the Wilson Picketts, the Sam Cookes, Ray Charleses and so many other superstars. They gave me the football, and I'm running with it."

Bobby Womack has seen it all. He started his career in the '60s, collaborating first with Sam Cooke, then with everyone from Ray Charles to Aretha Franklin to Jimi Hendrix. His solo career took off in the '70s, and the material he released then has made an indelible, if underappreciated, mark on pop music. But after a few unsuccessful albums released in the '80s and '90s, and some time in rehab, Womack had all but given up on his life as an artist.

Thankfully, his talents did not go unnoticed by Damon Albarn, whose collaborative brain-children have included Blur, Gorillaz and The Good, The Bad and The Queen. After having Womack add guest vocals to a few Gorillaz tracks, Albarn approached the soul singer about doing a full-length album. Though apprehensive, Womack agreed to go into the studio.

"I didn't know what was going to happen. I hadn't picked up my guitar for a long time," Womack says. "Plus, I had walked away from drugs completely, so that's like a whole new life — I found out I couldn't fit in because all I knew was a bunch of druggies, whether they were musicians or what. … They was too paranoid to be around me."

Womack and Albarn settled into a comfortable collaborative relationship, which produced an album in record time.

"I've never cut an album this quick," Womack says. "What Damon Albarn would do, he would start playing a track and once he played that track I'd say, 'Man that sounds like me. I can do this.' And he said, 'OK, we'll do it' and I'd jump on the song and before I knew it, the song was finished. He had a nice way of approaching me. He let me do what I wanted to do. It was a creator talking to a creator — the things that [I had been] afraid to try, I wasn't afraid to try with him."

▶ "The Bravest Man in the Universe," is available now.

And so the world now has "The Bravest Man in the Universe" — Womack's first album of original material in more than 15 years, with featured collaborations with Lana Del Rey and Malian singer Fatoumata Diawara. Albarn's electro-beat imprint is apparent — and will serve to draw new and younger listeners in — but Womack's thoughtful soul is at the heart of the record.

"I love the fact that I have something to say," says Womack "And I'm going to say it. And I think the best way to say it is on this new album."

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Tom Cruise plus a monkey equals good times for all

Justin Theroux spills the secrets of writing the comedy in 'Rock of Ages'

When Tom Cruise signed on to play fictional hard-rock bad-boy Stacee Jaxx in the musical "Rock of Ages," one thing was clear: His role would have to get a lot bigger. "Why would I have him there if I'm not going to use him?" director Adam Shankman offers. "Using him less would've felt like a stunt."

Enter Justin Theroux, one of the film's three credited screenwriters, who previously wrote "Tropic Thunder," featuring Cruise's attention-grabbing performance as Hollywood mogul Les Grossman. "The Stacee Jaxx character is very different from the Stacee Jaxx that was onstage," Theroux says, explaining that a lot of the change came from casting Cruise for the role. "It was more sort of a strung-out, druggie, drink-y character. We basically made him weirder and more fun. We added a monkey who was his best friend. We did all that."

Theroux admits that comedy in general is still a surprise coming from Cruise. "He's got such an amazing career as an action star and as a dramatic actor," he says. "Comedy's not something he really needs to do. But he does, and he's really effective at it because he approaches it like, 'I'm just going to play it straight.'"

With two movies under his belt now writing for the detail-oriented Cruise, Theroux admits he's developed quite a rapport with the actor. "He's got great ideas. When we were developing the monkey part, it came out of a conversation of like, 'Who would this guy have as a friend?' And then he was like, 'What do we call him?' And then he was like, 'Hey man, what if we just call him Hey Man?' And I was like, 'That's hysterical. I don't even know why it's funny, but it is.'"

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

▶ Stacee Jaxx (Cruise, right), seduces a fan (Malin Ackerman).

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Theroux

NED EHRBAR
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mystyle

Find the suit that suits you

This summer, instead of squeezing yourself into an itsy-bitsy number designed for a cartoon princess, take the time to find a bathing suit that works for your body. "You will find it," says Audrey Jimenez, a style and fit expert with Everything But Water. Ultimately, she says, the right suit is the one that makes you feel confident. "You need to wear the swimsuit that you feel most comfortable in and most beautiful in," she tells us. "If you feel insecure, it's just not right for you." We asked her for tips on common hard-to-fit areas.

Support your bust

"Bust support is the No. 1 problem that women come to me with," says Jimenez, who adds that larger-busted women don't necessarily need underwire. Instead, she recommends a banded halter top or a double-stringed bikini. "This is similar to what you're used to, but with a little more support — and it looks fun. The double-tie in the back is really pretty."

Vitamin A
top, $88;
bottom, $85

Flatten your tummy

Shirring will smooth over any concerns you have about your belly. "Shirring minimizes the appearance of the tummy," says Jimenez. "It provides tummy-control, if you will." Try a ruched tankini, which can be more convenient than a one-piece. Make sure that the bottom of your tankini top meets the top of your bikini bottom. If it doesn't, you've got the wrong size.

Ralph Lauren
top, $101;
bottom, $59

Create some balance

"Accentuate the opposite," advises Jimenez. "If you don't like your bottom, wear ruffles, embellishments or a plunging top to draw the eye upward. You can also wear something asymmetrical. Likewise with a larger bust that you'd like to deaccentuate: Wear a solid top and a ruffled or string-tie bottom." A colorful one-piece can also work. "Bright colors bring everything together, proportionately speaking."

Miraclesuit
one-piece, $150

Don't go out overexposed

Skip the boy shorts, which can add width to your hips, and try a feminine skirted bottom, instead. Prefer a more traditional shape? Don't just go for a larger size. "You might need a suit that offers more coverage in a smaller size," Jimenez suggests. "Going up in a size doesn't guarantee more coverage. If the sides of your tush are hanging out, that could be the style of the suit."

Swim Systems
top, $72;
bottom, $80

Ralph Lauren
bottom, $45

Avoid the muffin top

To avoid being squeezed around the middle, find bottoms that don't sit too high or too low. Jimenez also recommends a banded bottom. "Banded bottoms are known for reducing and minimizing muffin top because they lay flat. If it's digging in, then you have on the wrong size."

Beyond the bikini

"I'm a huge advocate of hats," says Jimenez. "A: They're totally on-trend. And B: For sun protection, it's a must nowadays. They look so great — and anyone can wear a hat."

REBECCA FINKEL
rebecca.finkel@metro.us

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mytechnology

How Facebook handles inappropriate content

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Several different teams handle the various kinds of material that violate Facebook rules.

Ensuring Facebook's community of more than 900 million users abides by the company's user policies is a task that requires hundreds of employees.

Based in Menlo Park, Calif.; Austin, Texas; Dublin, Ireland and Hyderabad, India, these employees field user reports of inappropriate posts around the clock. Yesterday, Facebook revealed details about how they get the job done.

Reports of inappropriate content, which users can submit with just a couple of clicks, are directed to one of four support teams.

An Abusive Content Team handles spam and sexually explicit content. Meanwhile, a Safety Team handles threats of vandalism, graphic violence, credible threats of violence and illegal drug use. A Hate and Harassment Team handles, well, reports of hate speech and harassment. The team that handles hacked and imposter accounts is called the Access Team.

If found to be in violation of Facebook's policies, Statement of Rights and Responsibilities or Community Standards, the content is removed and its publisher warned. Facebook's support teams may also block users who post inappropriate content or ban them from specific features. A separate team handles appeals.

Sometimes content on Facebook violates not just the company's policies, but the law.

One law enforcement agency, for instance, discovered photos of a man siphoning gas from a police car on the site. Others have discovered stolen property, calls for help and even live-crime updates on the social network.

These crime reports haven't necessarily originated from the company's team, but Facebook does say it will share reports with law enforcement "when we have a good faith belief it is necessary to prevent fraud or other illegal activity, to prevent imminent bodily harm, or to protect ourselves and you from people violating our Statement of Rights and Responsibilities."

SARAH KESSLER FOR Mashable
The Social Media Guide

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mywellbeing

Today in medicine

Stress has increased since the 1980s

Study subjects: 6,300 Americans
Location of study: U.S.
Results: A new report in the Journal of Applied Social Psychology says that over the last quarter century stress increased 18 percent for women and 24 percent for men. Among those with the highest stress levels were people with lower incomes and those with less education. The study also found that stress decreases as people age.
Significance: The computer age hasn't made life less stressful. The widening wealth gap is also possibly increasing economic stress levels.

PIXLAND

▶ If your stress has gone up recently, you're not alone.

For smokers, a picture says a thousand words

Study subjects: 200 smokers
Location of study: U.S.
Results: The American Journal of Preventive Medicine reports that putting graphic images on cigarette packs, such as pictures of patients on ventilators, was more effective in getting smokers to realize the health risks than worded warnings.
Significance: This news could help lead to the creation of more convincing warning labels for packs of cigarettes.

LINDA CLARKE

The dairy debate: What really does a body good?

Whole, 2 percent, 1 percent, fat-free, soy, rice, almond, coconut, hemp, and let's not forget goat's! Store shelves are lined with more milks of varying sources than ever before. So, which is the healthiest? Keri Gans, R.D., the author of "The Small Change Diet," stands behind standard reduced-fat cow's milk.

"Milk is still an important component of a healthy diet," she says. "Cow's milk has protein, calcium and vitamin D."

But if cow's milk isn't your thing, other options abound.

New York-based Rachel Begun, M.S., R.D., spokesperson for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, breaks down the pros and cons in the milk maze.

▶ **Whole or 2 percent milk**
Advantages: Tasty and creamy.
Disadvantages: High milk fat content adds calories and saturated fat.

▶ **1 percent or fat-free milk**
Advantages: Even less fat than 2 percent, but with all the same nutrients.
Disadvantages: Those converting from whole or 2 percent

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▶ "People need to try different products to see what they tolerate," says Gans. "Whichever you choose, look at the whole of your diet. Look at milk alternatives and see how they fit into your overall diet. Read the labels and look at the nutritional content."

milk may have a hard time adjusting to the texture and taste, as it's less creamy and sweet than whole or 2 percent.

▶ **Almond milk**

Advantages: It tends to be lower in calories and a great source of monounsaturated fats.

Disadvantages: It's low in protein and sugar is often added. Almonds are also one of the top allergens.

▶ **Rice milk**

Advantages: Great option for people with multiple food allergies.

Disadvantages: Higher on added sugar and calories, and its low protein content means you don't get the satiety.

▶ **Soy milk**

Advantages: One of the biggest pros is that the protein content is similar to cow's milk.

Disadvantages: Soy is a big allergen, too, and added sugar is an issue.

▶ **Coconut milk**

Advantages: The unsweetened varieties are low in calories.

Disadvantages: Coconut milk is high in saturated fat, which is linked to a greater risk of heart disease.

▶ **Hemp milk**

Advantages: It has a high omega-3 content, so it's heart healthy. The creamy texture mimics the consistency of milk.

Disadvantages: It is low in protein.

▶ **Goat's milk**

Advantages: Like regular cow's milk, it is a high-quality protein food with calcium and vitamin D. It is better tolerated for those who are lactose-intolerant.

Disadvantages: Like whole milk, it's high in saturated fat.

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

Health notes

Salute the sun

Today marks the summer solstice, and to celebrate, Athleta is sponsoring Solstice in Times Square: Athleta Mind Over Madness, an all-day yoga event in New York where over 9,000 yogis are expected. In our area, there's a free yoga class today at the Athleta store in the Burlington Mall from 3:30-4:45 p.m. You can check out how the Times Square event is going via the in-store live stream, and one participant will win a free Athleta yoga outfit and yoga mat.

Submit your best iced tea recipe

Few summer pleasures beat an iced tea on a scorching day. If you have a unique recipe for the refreshing thirst-quencher, send it to tetleyicedtearecipes@gmail.com before June 30 for a chance at a year's worth of Tetley's Iced Tea Blend, plus a glass set and pitcher. MEREDITH ENGEL

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Letters

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Why do we persist in voting for them?

I am really tired of watching this country's political leaders behave as if they were major league managers, continually making moves and countermoves in an attempt to defeat the opponent. Don't they realize that the point of a baseball game is to win, but the point of government is to help a society prosper? I think we need to make some dramatic moves if we're ever going to get past this terrible time, and I don't mean simply voting for the other guys. Party positions have become so inflexible that changing the people in leadership simply prolongs the fight. Political parties need to be eliminated. They have outlived whatever usefulness they ever had.

STEVE CRANDALL, VIA E-MAIL

Bush set precedent; how do you like it?

RE: "BOTH SIDES OF THE IMMIGRATION DIVIDE": John Hemphill says President Obama makes his own laws and does whatever he pleases and expects his desires to become reality. There is a very simple reason for this: George W. Bush did the very same thing, establishing the precedent that the president is allowed to do whatever he wants without consequences. Bush increased the power of the office with the approval of the right wing while the left and middle argued against it. Now that power remains with the office, but the president is not someone the right approves of, and they don't like it. This is hopefully a lesson to the conservatives that when increasing the power of government they should think ahead to the consequences of their actions.

DOUGLAS P BROWN II, VIA E-MAIL

Bush did not circumvent Congress in beginning either war. Both wars were authorized by Congress; Afghanistan, arguably, also fell under the U.N. Charter, which is a ratified U.S. law. You could argue the evidence presented to justify Iraq was bad, but that is something else entirely. Also, calling the Afghanistan campaign "unnecessary" is essentially kicking dirt on the graves of 9/11 victims and their families and the collective heart of this nation. It's shameful and ignorant.

TIMOTHY DESTEFANO, VIA E-MAIL

Bedell and Devan argue that Obama's use of executive discretion in enforcement of immigration law is criminal. Nothing could be more ridiculous than this belated concern for abuse of executive power after the Bush/Cheney regime deliberately used the tragedy of the 9/11 attacks to recommit all the crimes of the Watergate and Iran-contra scandals "with a principled legal defense." They used a law from our Civil War to stop attorneys general from investigations of predatory lending in their states. We have been totally outside the rule of law since the Supreme Court coup of 2000.

JAMES E. VAN LOOY, VIA E-MAIL

Ireland a vision of Romney presidency

I love Ireland. It's laid off public sector workers, slashed spending, enacted austerity programs and not raised taxes on corporations. Basically, it's the GOP plan if Romney is elected. Ireland has no economic growth and 14 percent unemployment.

SCOTT KEELEY, WALTHAM

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Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
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Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Generally speaking, in most situations you must prime the pump first to generate a flow. Thus, if you want to be on the receiving end today, be a giver.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** It's important to note that if you make good choices, certain actions you take concerning a pertinent matter are likely to have a number of far-reaching, favorable effects.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Although you might not have as much control over an important matter as you'd like, take comfort in knowing that someone else acting on your behalf will come through for you.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Even if companions are much faster than you at thinking on their feet, you'll still be the one who'll recognize the value of their ideas and maximize the benefits.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Don't fret if you feel threatened, because any challenging developments will only awaken your ingenuity. Competition will strengthen your resolve instead of weakening it.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Endeavors that you attempt solely on your own may yield only marginal successes. Conversely, you are apt to be extremely fortunate in all partnership arrangements.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Overall conditions look to be extremely promising for you, and that even includes certain negative developments. Any disruptive effects will be short-lived and ultimately beneficial.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It's OK to be careful, but don't play things so close to the vest that you end up overly cautious. Sometimes you need to take a calculated risk to get to the next level.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** With such a considerable number of material opportunities hovering about you, now is the time to improve or enlarge upon a situation that has already proved its worth.

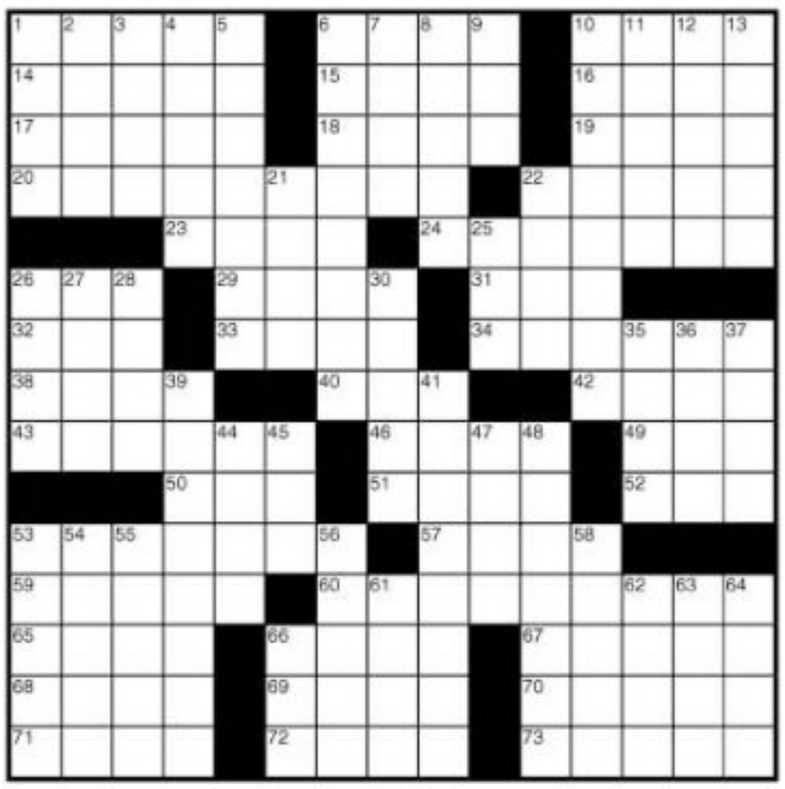
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** It would help you tremendously to be hopeful about the outcome of events that have an effect upon your financial well-being. Positive thinking will lead you to luck.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Regardless of how the day starts out, it's likely to finish on a good note. You'll make sure that many of the good things being denied others won't be held back from you.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If you want good things to happen, you can't be indifferent about matters that can directly affect your interests. To succeed, you need to be assertive. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 Mountain home
6 Yard tool
10 "__ don't fail me now!"
14 Regular's order
15 Mo. expense
16 Old Dodge model
17 List of candidates
18 Secluded corner
19 From memory
20 Laser art
22 Advise against
23 Commuter line
24 Zoo employees
26 With, to Fritz
29 Sgts.
31 Rap-sheet letters
32 Way back when
33 Vat
34 What Godzilla inspires
38 Hong __
40 Draftees
42 Unlikely story
43 Oval-nest builder
46 __ in the dark
49 Boggy ground
50 Pull hard
51 "Lost Horizon" role
52 Familiar digit
53 Jumble
57 Bun
59 D-Day beach
60 Sticker
65 Ocean motion
66 Vincent van __
67 Draw forth
68 Clay pot
69 Helm position
70 Doctrine
71 Organ part
72 Bird food
73 "The Sixth __"

Down
1 Like a rain forest
2 Nobel Prize city
3 __ citizenship
4 Toothy critter
5 Classy
6 "Off with you now!" (2 wds.)
7 Fermi split it
8 Magazine stand
9 Taiga denizen
10 Prologue, actually
11 Wax theatrical
12 ATM key
13 Layers
21 Costa __
22 Hockey feint
25 Dinner table exhortation
26 Dangerous shark
27 Frankenstein's gofer
28 Cager __ Kukoc
30 Ability
35 Inflatable item, maybe
36 Fridge stick
37 Descartes or Coty
39 Succeeded (2 wds.)
41 Hunted
44 Moon goddess
45 Turtle-to-be
47 Out of control
48 Straw mattresses
53 Engine
54 Novelist __ Zola
55 Chili server
56 Quebec school
58 Sandbags, maybe
61 Ess molding
62 Former German capital
63 Luau strings, for short
64 Solar plexus
66 Driver's fill-up



	8					2	6	
2	9			5				4
				2	4			5
	4	8					1	3
			5		8			
5	7					9	2	
7			9	8				
6				7			3	2
	2	1					7	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

6	7			1				5
		4		8	5		6	
			6		4	9		
2						6	1	
	9						5	
	8	6						2
		9	1		3			
	5		7	9		3		
4				2			7	9

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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A culture crisis for Sox

Youkilis trade rumors hotter than ever ◗ Reports of a fractured clubhouse ◗ Valentine tries to weather yet another 'culture' storm ◗ Winning is the only remedy for Sox right now

Despite a winning record of late, the major story with the Boston Red Sox is not what is taking place on the field, but rather what is taking place off it.

There is no denying the fact that the Red Sox's culture is a mess, from the front office all the way down to the players. Thus, it was no surprise reading ESPN's Buster Olney's blog posts from last weekend.

Olney wrote, "... the Red Sox are a splintered group, with a lot of players and staff unhappy for a lot of different reasons. If they do come back and make the playoffs, it's not going to be because of a united clubhouse. It's toxic — but that doesn't mean they can't win."

There have been issues with the manager, staff and players dating all the way back to spring training. By many accounts many of the issues stem from a lack of communication from all parties involved.

The Red Sox are not a team. They are 30 or so individuals displaying the Red Sox name on the front of their jerseys.

There is no team unity like many Red Sox teams in the past. The clubhouse is divided on whether they like their manager or not. The team and manager have criticized the umpiring more than ever this year.

Quite simply, the team seems to be playing for themselves as individuals, rather than each other and a team.

Quoted

"I don't know how to define toxic. It's too big of a word for me."

RED SOX MANAGER BOBBY VALENTINE YESTERDAY ON AN ESPN REPORT THAT CALLED THE RED SOX CLUBHOUSE 'TOXIC'

In a game that goes 17 innings and the team has used all of their pitchers in the bullpen, a Gold Glove first baseman should not be volunteering to pitch. A starting pitcher should step up and offer their services, not watch a utility outfielder pitch and eventually lose the game.

When a starting pitcher is forced to miss a start because of a trip to the disabled list, another starter who could have pitched a day earlier than originally scheduled, but still on regular rest should take the ball, not say he needs a few extra days off.

All of these are signs that there is some serious disconnect in the clubhouse.

It is not far-fetched to say that almost the whole roster is available to be dealt before next month's trade deadline. Things do get tricky because a number of players have signed long-term, large sum contracts, which might have an impact on whether or not a team would want to trade for them.

One thing that is close to certain is that the Red Sox need a serious change in culture to be considered a real "team" once again.

RYAN HANNABLE
sports@metro.us

JIM BOGASH/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Things have been getting all-around ugly for Kevin Youkilis as of late.

In the news

King Felix
Felix Doubront has become one of the more reliable Red Sox starters this season as he owns a 7-3 record and a 1.34 WHIP. Doubront takes the hill tonight against Miami's Ricky Nolasco (6-5).

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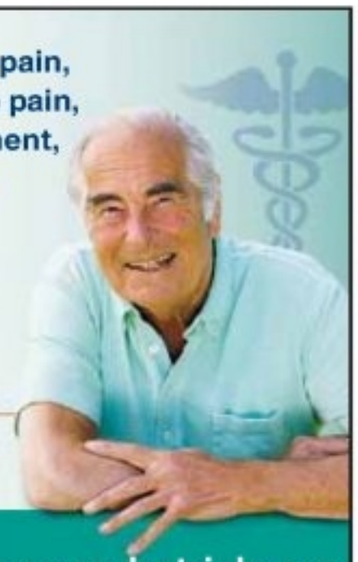

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▶ Kevin Durant was a pingpong ball's bounce away from landing in Boston.

What if C's had Durant?

Thought exercise

If Kevin Durant landed in green, Kevin Garnett might be a Laker and LeBron might already have a ring.

KG in LA? Pau Gasol had yet to be shipped to Los Angeles and Garnett was ready to be moved. Kobe Bryant was pleading with Mitch Kupchak to get him some help and was threatening to leave himself. Garnett was the biggest fish out there at the time.

The King with a ring? If the Celtics had not stood in the way of the Cavs in 2008 and 2010, LeBron would likely have led the Cavs to the Finals in both of those years. Here's guessing they would have won one out of two against whatever came out of the West.

The fact that the Miami Heat are currently in the NBA Finals is not the only reason as to why Celtics fans should be playing the 'what if?' game today.

What should hurt the most: What if the pingpong balls had bounced the right way back on May 22, 2007? What if Danny Ainge was so smitten with Kevin Durant, that he would have selected the Texas rookie over Greg Oden a month later?

Here's a few educated guesses at to what would have happened if Durant wound up in Green:

No banner 17 in 2008

It wouldn't have happened right away, but there is no doubt that if Durant landed in a Celtics uniform, Boston would be title contenders until approximately 2023. The Celtics, led by Chris Paul, Al Jefferson, David West and Durant would likely be in the Finals right now against the ancient Spurs.

What happened to Pierce and Rondo?

There's little doubt that Ainge would have pulled a Sam Presti had he landed Durant — that is trading his biggest old star (Pierce … like Ray Allen) and a valuable chip (Rondo) for something he long coveted (Chris Paul). Ainge was surely trigger-happy during this time period and would have wanted to build this thing from the ground up, using a full-on youth movement. Pierce wouldn't have factored into those plans at the time and Rondo was still a very unproven player. Chris Paul trade rumors started the day he arrived in the league and Ainge was in on nearly all of them. It's a sure bet that he would have offered a huge package for Paul at some point between 2007 and 2012.

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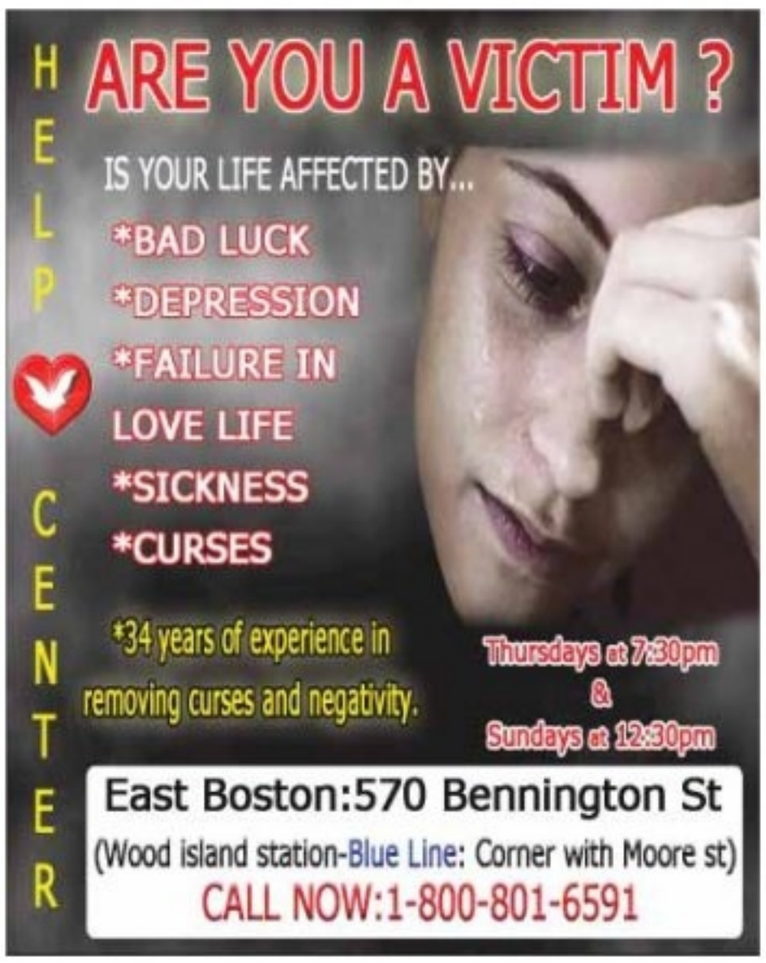

Defensive keys this summer

A pair of defensive players for Pats fans to keep an eye on this summer as the team takes baby steps in attempting to reach Super Bowl status once again:

Devin McCourty
The Patriots pass defense was largely a disappointment last season, and one player who definitely played a huge role in the overall poor product is McCourty. McCourty came off a rookie season in which he finished as a finalist for Rookie of the Year honors (Ndamukong Suh won). But his sophomore season proved to be a bumpy ride, as he was burned with his back to the ball while playing corner, and moved to the safety position during the season. Will the real McCourty please stand up in year three?

Jonathan Fanene
Despite having two 10-sack defensive ends last year in Mark Anderson and Andre Carter, the Patriots pass rush was certainly nothing to write home about. To make matters worse, neither player is on the team this year. One of the Patriots' first orders of business during free agency was locking up Fanene, an underused and highly versatile defensive end on the Cincinnati Bengals.

"If (the Patriots) tell me to play nose, I'll play nose ... outside end, special teams, I'm doing it," Fanene said back in May. JIMMY TOSCANO

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jonathan Fanene's progression will be one of many items to watch this summer.

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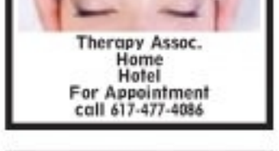
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There's no place like home

A number of homeowners are taking the staycation concept one step further They're using their summer days off and money they would have spent on a trip to improve their places

The recession's "staycation" trend taught many people that staying home during the usual summer travel period is a great way to save money or put money toward necessities. Even if tight purse strings have eased this year, some homeowners have chosen to put summer vacation time and money into their own backyards — literally, working on their own backyards and home exteriors.

"This summer, the project I'm working on is the exterior breezeways of my house," says David Simeone, who lives in Malden. "The one in front has slowly sunk forward, so I have to rip the bottom apart, jack it up [and] install supporting posts. Not having a vacation isn't really a big deal, because the weather is beautiful here in the summer. I just enjoy the warm temperatures, even if I have to work through it."

Handily, Simeone works in construction and can do the work himself. Other people have hired professionals.

"I have contracted for new landscaping in the backyard," says Chris Lyons, a Framingham-based restaurant publicist. "I may have the patio rebricked and add a trellis out front too."

Lyons is no stranger to holiday sacrifice: "Last summer, it was house-painting and windows."

Of course, those people who got work done this spring can enjoy their yards this summer.

"I just finished redoing my garden and patio," says Denise Jillson, executive director of the Harvard Square Business Association. People who ask her where she's going for her summer vacation get a witty retort: "I tell them, 'We usually take a nice trip to Europe, but this year we will be vacationing at 2203.'"

If you haven't guessed, 2203 is the number of her house.

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

Enjoy thoroughly

Summer vacations come and go, but the benefit of home improvement lasts:

"It boils down to economics," says Lyons. "I plan to stick [with this house] for a while, and I will enjoy those years more thoroughly with new windows, a few fresh bushes and trees, and a refurbished patio."

DENISE JILLSON

▶ A week at the beach — who needs that? Not Denise Jillson! She's got a brand-new patio at her house.

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International superrich target California real estate

▶ Signs you can't afford it: Sotheby's is selling it.

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The superrich investors responsible for London's prime real estate bubble are adding California to their wish lists, lured by bargains offering crisis-defying returns as an overdue churn in the United States property market finally gets under way.

Wealthy European and Asian investors who have dominated the market for addresses in London's most fashionable neighborhoods are frequently outbidding locals for assets in the Golden State, U.S. real estate brokers report — and banks, long shackled by the volume of distressed property on their books, are in the mood to cut deals.

Quoted

"Investors believe that the U.S. is fundamentally stable." ADAM FENNER

"It is now London and Los Angeles, not Shanghai or Moscow, that interests the cash-rich international investor," said Simon Lyons, managing director of global property group Enstar Capital, who is making regular U.S. trips in search of bargains.

The Chinese are now the second-largest foreign buyers of U.S. homes (behind Canadians), accounting for 11 percent of sales in the year to March 2012. Cash purchases accounted for 62 percent of international sales, and the average price paid by international buyers was $400,000 against the overall U.S. average of $212,000.

David Parnes, a director at Bond Street Partners, a Los Angeles-based realtor specializing in high-end luxury and investment property, said that Los Angeles is enjoying its biggest influx of foreign capital for years.

"Investors are now snapping up foreclosures in greater numbers because comparatively low property prices mean they are able to achieve strong returns," he said. "Prices in L.A. are showing to 60 to 70 percent discounts against their equivalent in Manhattan."

Adam Fenner, an executive at California's Skyline Wilshire Investment Partners, which sources overseas capital for high-quality U.S. real estate operators and funds, said that overseas investors are again viewing the U.S. as "a safer haven."

"The very existence of the euro zone is now in doubt, whereas investors believe that the U.S. is fundamentally stable," he said. REUTERS

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In the news

Housing market shows signs of recovery

The U.S. housing market is stabilizing, bolstering the balance sheets of those builders who survived the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, even as the world's biggest economy shows signs of weakness. Home prices advanced 1.1 percent in April from a year earlier, according to data provider Core Logic Inc., while purchases of new homes rose to an almost two-year high as record-low mortgage rates lure buyers.

"After a couple of challenging years, people feel that the worst is over," said Sabur Moini, adding that housing prices have probably "bottomed out."

Purchases of new homes in the U.S. rose 3.3 percent in April from the previous month to an annual pace of 343,000, the Commerce Department said May 23. An index of housing affordability is at the highest level, in data going back to 1986, according to the National Association of Realtors.

"People are a bit more confident about purchasing homes," said Bob Curran, a New York-based analyst at Fitch Ratings. "You need a catalyst and there's been pent-up demand as people had deferred on buying homes." **BLOOMBERG**

PHOTODISC

What we're into

Now: Design blog backlash

Take a good look around your space. Is there a terrarium perched atop a pile of vintage suitcases? Maybe some antlers mounted on a chalkboard-painted wall? How about a frame cluster? If you answered yes to any of the above and/or even considered storing knick-knacks in mason jars, you may be suffering from an overdose of indie design blogs. For a proper diagnosis, visit www.f—yournoguchi coffeetable.tumblr.com (you'll have to spell that first expletive out), a hilarious parody of the hypercurated spaces featured on Apartment Therapy-style blogs.

All summer: Barbecue garden

Design-forward home goods company black+blum is behind this crafty, space-saving grill. By day, it masquerades as a terra cotta pot full of herbs. By evening, it pops its top off to reveal a stainless steel cooking surface. **$124, www.black-blum.com**

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DO YOU NEED A LAWYER TO BUY A HOUSE?

By Attorney George Warshaw

If you are getting a mortgage the bank will hire an attorney to examine the title and conduct the closing. Do you really need to hire and pay for your own lawyer as well?

The role of the lender's attorney is to implement the loan, not advise the buyer on legal matters or assist in the purchase and sale agreement.

If a title examination shows an easement giving someone the use of or the right to go across your property, as often occurs, the lender usually won't care but the buyer might.

Or if an examination reveals a restriction on the color you can paint your house, the ability to add a deck or a myriad of other common matters, the lender will likely not care.

Chances are you won't even be told about any of a number of matters affecting the property. They'll just be listed in a form that you might not even see at the closing.

Don't count on the lender's attorney to provide any advice if a problem arises. Their job is to collect the money, clear any liens, pay the seller and get the lender's papers signed.

So be a smart buyer: save the pennies on something else. Hire your own attorney and get personal legal advice.

GWA

George Warshaw is a real estate and estate planning attorney in Massachusetts. He represents buyers and sellers of homes and condos in Massachusetts and prepares wills, trusts for individuals and families. George welcomes new clients and questions at metro@warshawlaw.com.

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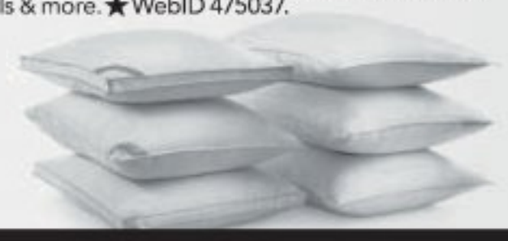

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